STORIES OF ANIMAL LIFE.

Entertainment for Sportsmen

A BREATH FROM THE FIELDS.

The Biggest Kind of a Snake Yarn by One

Has Anybody Seen a More Remarkable

know, or what they say they know, about makes of different kinds that I have been expecting every day to see something printed about the thunder and lightning snake," said a man who dec ared that he know a little about snakes himself. "but as no one seems to tome to the front and speak his little piece up my mind that this snake is either thought not to be of any consequence or has escaped the notice of travellers and sportsmen who have visited the favored region where he hangs am just the man that il do it.

When I was a good deal younger than I am now. I got around through the country, here, there, and everywhere, and although I was simply a lightning-rod agent, that didn't prevent me from observing things as I passed along. If there was anything curious in art or nature wherever I might be. I was sure to see it and get on to all its points. If I hadn't been disposed that way, it isn't likely that I would ever have made the acquaintance of the thunder and lightning snake.

When the first settlers began to take up the land in southern California they were for a long time puzzied by what seemed to them a curious meteorological phenomenon. Every night or so, although the sky might be without s cloud, and the night bright moonlight, the sound of thunder would roll out on the quiet air, followed by vivid flashes of lightning, off in the direction of the woods that borde ed the prairie, just as if a hard storm was getting ready to pass over the region. But no rain would follow the electrical disturbance, and by and by the scattered settlers got used to it, and but it down as one of the queer ways nature had af showing what she could do in that semi-

stands of the state of the state and the state of the sta

STORIES OF ANIMAL LIFE.

Entertainment for Sportsmen and Naturalists.

A BREATH FROM THE FIELDS.

The Biggest kind of a Snake Yarn by One Who Says He Was There.

A shybody Seen a More Remarkable Sergent than the Thunder-anad-lightning from the burner part of the tree facility of the State o

CLOUGH'S REAR.

With Incidental Reference to Three Others, and a Gun Lond of Curpet Tacks. HARRISBURG, June 29 .- The country

around Bramis's Lake, in the southern part of Potter county, has always been a favorite haunt of black bears, its character being especially adapted to their habits, and affording them choice feeding places and safe retreats in all seasons. So far this season they have seemed to be around in larger numbers than usual. Every day or two reports have come to the villages of bears being seen by lumbermen and farmers, crossing roads and fleids on their way to favorite foraging quarters, and even appearing in gardens. Dur-Ing the past two weeks several have been prowling around in the neighborhood of James Clough's clearing, and a number of sheep have disappeared. A few days ago Clough was at work in a field near his house, and saw a big bear walking along in the public road. It was headed directly for Clough's house. Clough started on a run by a short cut for the house, and looking back after he ar-

cleared away the farmer write noted that both the farmer and the bear cro stretched on the ground, the farmer ten teet hack from where he st od when he fired, and the bear right where he had been multing up the vines. Mrs. Clough san out expecting to find her husband dead, but hele re size reached him he rose caressing his right, shoulder and gazing about him in a lazed sort of way.

"Motiver," said he to his wife, "If them carpet tacks is as wide spreadin in their ront action as they be nowerful in their back action, that hear il drop into pieces no bigger than has bait when we ple kin up."

It wasn't quite as bad as that. The carpet tacks had shown their wide-ascreading capacity to be considerable, though, for when the bear came to be direased carpet tacks were found sticking in his feart like pins in a cachion, while the general distribution of them extended from his shoult to he tail. Farmer Clough had been a little too libers! with his arm work will have to be done by others for a week or two. But he got his bear.

CATCHING A BIG-HORN ALIVE.

The Only Instance on Record of this Very

Emmarkable Feat.

"There is only one instance on record of a man actually capturing and holding by his unabled strength a wild Rocky Mountain sheep." said A. P. Horton, an old Montaus ranchman, "and that apparently impossible feat was nerformed by a Tennsylvanian named Frank F. Baker. Any one who knows anything about the big-horn sheep of the Rockies knows that, generally speaking, it would be about as easy a thing to get his hands on one of the wary and agile animals as it would be to grab a streak of lightning. In the first place, to get within "Allowment light burning bar has less come outen."

Hawks, snakes, and ground hogs "I raise the birt lover!"

Wills, and is doid Johnny to find the ground hog and kill it on sight. Then he and hi-wile reprined to their respective duties. Johnny laid for the ground hog until dispertions, but the strength of get to bis hole. Then Johnny laid for the ground hog kept to bis hole. Then Johnny laid for the ground hog kept to bis hole. Then Johnny laid for the ground hog well dispert to be side of the boars on a local run. It was neighbor Sam Rush, Neighbor sam gaid at the farm gaid at the farm gaid at the farm gaid.

John unner if for the gun again, and the family followed him to the gate to hear what he gain man a thing to get his hands on one of the wary and again animals as it would be to grab a streak of lightning. In the first place, to get within lightning. In the first place, to get within even long rifle range of a big-horn, unless by accident, is something that the most expert mountain hunters have been able to do only by the greatest strategy, the severest toil, and great risk to life and limb, to such almost inaccessible fastne-ses does the sharp-eyed, keen - scented, sure - footed big - horn re-tire with ease at the first indication of danger. The animal is instluctively suspicious. cautious beyond any animal that lives, and possessed of marveilous powers of speed and skill in making its way over places that skill in making its way over places that are inaccessible to the most nimble-looted of any other American beast. The Bocky Mountain sneep is the chamois of this continent: I have known a hunter to follow a bighoun for two weeks, day alter day, until he had traited it almost to the chands on the breast of the Sierras before he manared to get it within reach of his ride. For this reason the capture of one of these sheep in a struggle at close quarters must stand as one of the most extraordinary or physical seats. Although it was only five years ago when it was accomplished, bighorn sheep were then comparatively pleaty in Montana. It isn't likely that one could be found to-day within a thousand miles of the spot where Baker distinguished himself with this particular one.

"Baker had a cattle ranch near Boulder, Mon. He was not out hunting the day he captured his sheep, but came upon it suddenly at the oot of a sloping bank, which was growned by an aimost perpendicular cliff twenty feethigh. Baker was accom, anied by one of his shephed dogs, which had been trained for huning. The sheep toonded up the sloping bank, closely followed by the dog. The high cliff cut on its light up the mountain, and, on reaching it, the big-horn took in the situation at once and turned on the dog. Standing with its rump against the cliff the sheep presented its formidable iron to the dog. The dog was wise enough to keep out of reach of the treme dous battering ram the sheep wielded, one blow for my which would have mished the skull of a buffalo bull, but kept the animal at buy by safe and noisy manaruyres.

Baker quickly took in the strategic points are inaccessible to the most nimble-looted

head with his bandanna and walking back to-ward the barnyard. "Specially in the poultry department."

Mrs. Farmer Willis, bemoaning the taking off of her pesping pet resumed her work among the onions. Johnny lugged his gon back and but it behi d the kitchen door, and busied himself in softening the harness once more. The usual calm rested on and about the farm, and remained unbroken for an hour or so, when it was suddenly ruffled again. This time a biping alarm came from the meadow bear the house. Farmer Willias twelve year-old hor Tominy sto d on the stone wall walling his chip hat. It was als thin treble that set the househ all by the ears this time.

Johnny att your gon! It plied.

Johnny att your gon! It plied.

Johnny dropped his harness and grabbed his gon. Down toward the meadow he dashed on the double quick. Farmer Willis dashed atter him. Mrs. Willis brought up the rear.

There's a big ground hog got his hole in the medler! said Tommy, when the lamily contingent arrived panting on the scene. I seen him, and he's cut up half an acre of the best-folower!"

"Hawks, snakes, and ground hogs 'll raise the bett-folower!"

family followed him to the gate to hear want new danger was threatening the prospecity of Willis farm.

"A slammin' hig bar has lest come outen your sheep jastur', end has gone later the beech with one one o' your lambs!"

"Well, there!" exclaimed harmer Willis.

If night don't come proff soon I wouldn't be willin't o give six dollars for all that 'll be left on this farm wen it does come!

"Then Johnny and the gun and the farmer and neighbor sam tarried for the beech to get the bear, I had to leave for home, and I haven't heard whether they got it or not."

The Peculiar Malady that Attacks Coons.

Woodchucks, and Cats in Connecticut. ANSONIA, June 29 .- Some weeks ago THE Sun published an item concerning the peculiar epidemic which has attacked coons in the towns bordering on the Housaronte River. They crawled from their nests to the brooks to drink, were stricken with paralysis in the hindquarters, and were unable to crawl back. They either died in the felds or were killed by the farmers' boys who were after their pelts. It has also been ascertained that coons are not has also been ascertained that coons are not the only sufferers. Woodchucks and even domestic cats are afflicted in the same way, and for two weeks back several hundred of the former hale leen killed in the town of Bridgewater. One wildeat was found by a factor in Sou about a suffered in the hindquarters. The matter is attracting widespread attention, and it is the topic uplermost in the convertation of the farmers alter meet at the village grocery on Saturdays while ding their weekly trading. No explanation is given except poisoning, but, as the epidemic is prevalent along the whole length of the river on both sides, that is not satisfactory.

and an hour after the Jerseymen har satisfied for the the rain cased entirely. One by one the visiting angiers rigaed up and sauntered down to an action the Twin Lake Stream settlement are just now in a quandary. They are wondering whether some one has been playing a low-down joke on them or not, and the greater part of them think the joke was played.

One of the citizens of the somewhat extended region known as the Twin Lake Stream settlement, and they got the mistress of the somewhat extended region known as the Twin Lake Stream settlement, and they got the mistress of the somewhat extended region known as the Twin Lake Stream settlement, and they got the mistress of the somewhat extended down to recover among the balsams and spruces and hemiseks the health he had lost in the city that grew rich on salt. After Mr. Works had made the acquaintance of his neighbors they very speedily learned that he had one other ambition beside that of recovering his health. He wanted to kill a bear. This was a laudable desire in the minds of his neighbors, and so, after some months, when the gentleman was able to travel about comfortably, one of the woodsmen. Bill Leemis, set and balited a trap and watched it unknown to Mr. Works, until one day a fine big cub was found with one of its forepaws in the ion jaws of the trap. Thereupon the native of the proposed out in the heads and tails of the way of the trap. Thereupon the native of the way had not be a proposed out in the heads and tails of the way of the trap and watched it unknown to Mr. Works, until one day a fine big cub was found with one of its forepaws in the ion jaws of the trap. Thereupon the native of the heads and tails of the way of the trap and watched it unknown to Mr. Works, until one day a fine big cub was found with one of its forepaws in the ion jaws of the trap. Thereupon the native for the first mid the rain the prince right made in the past respect to the mistress of hour allowers within half as thie of the house with he had looked more pleaned, and all re found with one of its forepaws in the iron jaws of the trap. Thereupon the native hastened away to tell Mr. Works all about it. The native was quite sure of a \$5 note at least. The native found Mr. Works reading the stories of woods life in a copy of THE SUNDAY Sun which he had obtained in Northwood. "B'lieve y' want to kill a bar," said the na-

You guessed it the first time," said Mr. Works. Git ver gun and come right along

one ready for ye." Mr. Works jumped up and ran for his rifle. Pretty soon he came back with the rifle in his hand, and a curious look on his face. he asked.

Sartin. He's all fast. I see that his pay

could never get outer them jaws before I left him."

"Then he's in a trap, is he?"

"Sartin. It 'ud hold a grizly."

Mr. Works placed his rifle in a corner.

"If you think I'm going to shoot a bear that you caght in a trap you must think I'm a going to shoot a bear that you caght in a trap you must think I'm a down the canery rue might suppose he would have been. Mr. Works was a good neighbor and spent money freely. But the reluxat to shoot the bear cailed for revenue, and when show came the battle got in the reluxation shoot the bear cailed for revenue, and when show came the battle got in the reluxation show the also found that a barrel of stops from the kitchen which had been filled for the beacht of a neighbor's hog had been upset where it stood by the barn and the solids hoating in that disappeared. The show around was all tracked up with a regular old moocasin, as one of the neighbors said who was called over to look at it. It was a bear a track and of the heighbors said who was called over to look at it. It was a bear a track and the north lork of little Black Creek," said the north lork of little Black Creek," said the north lork of little Black Creek," said the north lork of little Black Creek, and it clambered over the mountainous ridge between the north and the south lorks in a trait that made Mr. Works pant. But he was game, and followed down off the mountain and around back to I'win Lake stream, and finally out to the public highway, not more than two miles above libe Ponys, liere it was lost. The natives suggested the said the sa

The mosquit es were bad-so were the fles. and they were not going to stay after sunrise.

As luck would have it they didn't have to.

As soon as it was light enough for a tair aim
the back fawn an eared on the run as before
and head down stream toward he settlement.
But the smell of the sait storped it, and in a
moment it was rolled over with two rifle builets
in its body.

But the smell of the sait storped it, and in a moment it was rolled over with two rille builets in its body.

The two men made haste to disembowed it, and then, with fear and trembling est a game constable be concessed behind every tush, burried to full's barn.

There they sat down to examine their prize. It was no shaped like a lawn, it had a floman mose, and the hair was bong under the chin. The eyes were white around the puril. They had never seen such an antimal as that. They called Mr. Works in, its looked at it.

"It is a black goat," he said. "Where did it come from?"

That is a question which Pill and the rest of the people of the satilement are trying to

AN ANGLER FROM NEW JERSEY.

He was Green, and Carried an Umbrella, but He Could Catch Trout,

SCRANTON, June 29, -Seven amateur trout anglers from various places were lounging around a fisherman's re-ort in the Pocono Mountains the other afternoon, waiting for the weather to clear up. It had drizzled and poured at intervals all day, and the auxious anglers were in a gloomy mood, until a jolly Jerseyman came in on the stage from Perene Summit Station. He was a stranger to them all, but he was chatty, hearty, rosy, very good natured, and full of animation, and he got acquainted with the group of ide fishermen in less than fitteen minutes. His arrival was like a burst of bright sunshine out of the cloudy sky; they all liked him from the start. and his presence put new life into the party. He said he hadn't fished for trout in twenty yoars, and as his stay would necessarily have to be very short he was going right at the sport, no mat-ter how much it might rain that afternoon. Then he retired to his room, and pretty soon he came down stairs rigged out in a brand new trouting outfit. He had one of the latest style of steel rods, that cost \$9, a nickel-plated reel, a large creel, some of the gaudiest flies that any of the party had ever seen, and a silk umbrella. The fishermen were more deeply interested in the stranger then ever when the, saw the umbreila, and in low to es they expressed the opinion among themselves that he must certainly be as green a li-herman as he pretended to be. It was raining hard when the fat and joyial Jerseyman got ready to start, but he didn't hesitate a moment. As he raised his umbrelia and rapidly strode away toward Tunharmork Creek he was a picture-que figure. When he was

rapidly strode away toward Tunharnock treek he was a picture-que figure. When he was out of hearing there was much shi kering on the rorch and these remarks were made:

"It bet he won't atch a rrout."

"The idea of fishing with an umbrella!"

"Jersey against the word gentlemen."

"He may surprise us all when he gets back."

"It bet the umbrella it bring him tuck."

It began to look lighter after a fittle while, and an hour after the Jerseymen had salled forth the rain ceased entirely. One by one the visiting anglers rigged up and sauntered down to a nice front tream that ran through mead-

It was even so, but the Jerseyman explained it by saying that he know they would be hungry, and he had out the heads and tails off so as to have them all ready for cooking. There were thirty-two trout in the basket, and the eight lishermen devoured them all in less than an hour. During the Jerseyman's stay of two days longer he caught more trout than any three of the others, and they declared that he was the jolliest and best-hearted angler they had ever met, even though he was a little green and anyward.

CONNECTICUT FISH STORIES.

and awkward.

NEW HAVEN, June 29 .- The Connecticut River shad season, which closed last week by law, has been an unusually poor one. The fish have been large and of exceptionally fine quality, but the catch has been very small. Some of the Hartford and Saybrook dealers, who in previous seasons have handled 500 shad a day, have this yer received not over 150. All the pounds were closed a week ago, and shad now coming to market are taken in gill nets at East Haddam, Rocky Hill, Cromwell, and Weathersfield Cove. A startling and probably correct theory is advanced to account for the scarcity of shad in the Connecticut, which augurs ill for good catches there in the future. It is believed by the dishermen that the new long breakwater at the mouth of the river turns the fish away; that they strike this pier, then head into deep water to get around it, and in this way are steered toward the head of Long Island Sound. In confirmation of this theory is the fact that large hauls of shad have been made by nound fishermen this year at various points on the south Connecticut shore between Saybrook and this city. One fisherman has taken over 10,000, thentical in every particular with the Connecticut favor lish. So it appears that the hoisonous waste waters and dams on numerous Connecticut factories are not the only obstacles the shad have to encounter in their search for spawning places.

James W. Nye. a Ledyard farm hand, while angling at Cook's Mills on Saturday night last, caught what he supposed was a large freshwater eel. While trying the xitricate the hook from his prize it bit him through the foreinger of the left hand and wrapped its body about his arm. Nye's cries of pain summoned his companions, and a lantern's light showed that the cautor himself was captured by a posonous red water soake of productous size. The scenent would not release its hold of the man's linger until Nye neld its neck down upon the gunwale of his boat and cut off lishead with his jackknife. Nye was carried in a lainting condition to a physician, but is now said to be out of danger.

Presto frog catchers are making good wages by spenring frogs for the New York markets. Robert Stabb and a companion took infecten pounds of frog saddless from one brook on Friday. New York said to consume more frogs' legs than all the summer watering places on the Atlantic canat.

Henry Undrus, John Whitmore, and Henry Clark. Hartford anglers, hays just returned from a three days' fishing trip on the Farming ton River, near New Boston, The-stream was swollen to a raging torrent by freshets, but in soile of his they caught over 10t trout, weighting they never how which weighted three pounds, one of their baskets contained telling should be welling thirty-seven pounds in his gill not recently. A seven-and-a half from still soots in the river-phaces where they are being taken in good numbers of Falkner's and Thi in this way are steered toward the head of Long Island Sound. In confirmation of this theory is the fact that large hauls of shad have

known as the leather cars. It measured 25 Inches and weighted a pounts. The brook is an outlet of the Che-thui Hill reservoir, where there are serve, built heads, and pickerel only. None of the old residents can account for the

EARTR'S BIGGEST CREATURES. Talk Concerning the Most Noted Elephants

Brought to This Country. From the St. Louis Republic.
Vincinia, 1th., June 12.—Over in the city of

Was Hannibal burned up in that great New York life?

"No, he died three years before that. For nearly twenty years of the forty odd that I was in the show business Hannibal and I were travelling companies, and we visited every town of any size in the United States and Canada and and Canada

Museum of Natural History at Boston, where

Misnow, finely monited.

And how and when did Hamilial die?

The death of Hamilial occurred at Centreville, a very small from mean the southern line
of Fennsylvania, about had way between Bedford, far, wist Cumberland, Md., in the spring
of 1806, the week collecting tech, Lee's surrender. I had his body buried on a farm there,
and for some law years or more I paid the
content of the farm to watch his grave. The
cruse of his death was possibling from eating
sheep seried on the Laurel Monitain. The
content acid in the plant is what killed him,
Forepaule had three small one two others
did in the same way; only one of them died, however, the other two were saved by being
dresiched with milk and monitaeses. After the other
had been dead something over two years I
had the size for taken unant packed in bross
and effects it to the Commissioners of Central
Park in New York on co-idition that they
would destay all expenses incidental to 18
preservation. Baking, Usan perfaillen. &c.
After deliberating the proposition for a
year or more they could not agree definitely about it, and a year or so later I
presented the skeleton to the city of Chicags, through one meilian college there, on
condition that it would be properly mounted
and proced in as ac place where the public
could see it at all times tree of charge. After
that I though no more about it, and suppose
that I was destroyed in the great fire of 1871,
it is a niggerier fliedy that the iw- techyo
and proced in a sac place, where the public
could see it at all times tree of charge. After
that I thought no more about it, and suppose
that it was destroyed in the great fire of 1871,
it is a niggerier fliedy that the iw- techyo
have did belong to Hamilial, and were recovc ed after the fire in Chicago, not in New York,
as the showman said, for the skeleton was
rever fires.

"The wife remember now, commons as alearny fire the fire in Chicago, not in New York,
as the showman is the largest one in the
bid capture of the college of the public of the public
tha This Concerning the News Novel Elephans

Brought to This Constr.

Tractice of the Construction of the Cons

A Monster Serpent in Milinots,

A Monster Serpent in Milnols.

Frink's Hollow is a deep guilty or ravine running from one side of Knoxville road up town of the built, and is a dark and dismal spot even on the brightest and sanniest days. Durring the past month a dozen or more young men claim to have seen a snake of monster size crawing across the road into the ravine. The first time it was seen as a during a bright moenlight night, when a young man, duly sans and sober, was coming along at a brisk walk. The fort ble monster, as it is described, gladed not-elessly across the bath, and down into the bash. The young man was so horrified for a time that he could not speak, but he finally recove ed himself and can for dear life. He told the story to two or three, but was laughed at, and refrained from repeating it any more, since that time several naties claim to have seen it, and one caught a good look at it in broad daylight.

If the desc intions given of the thing by those who claim to have seen it are anywhere near correct, the fearful creature is by no means a native of this country. It is said to be about lifteen feet in length, and as thick as a man's leg at the biggest part of the body. It moves swiftly and easily, and as picars to be easily frightened, and has thus far refrained from attacking any one, concentrug himself with gotting away and leaving a clear field to all who happened to meet it. As described, it is too large for either a ratiler or a bla-ksnake, and if it exists at all it must have escaped from some museum or circus. There is no doubt but that several young men in the neighborhood are terrorized a neet the reports, and are afraid to pass the hollow at might a one. The ladies are especially timid, and many of them have failed to come down town after dark since the repulsive reptile has put in an appearance.

Missouri is one of the few states in the Union in which bounties are paid on wolf scaps and the only one in which there is a price put on the head of a rat. The state law outlawing these animals permits outless the price of a wolf scale at \$1, to be used by the county. There are earlies in south central Missouri, stat, ety settled and very poor in many ways that are always refered to as Wolf Scale County. There are earlies in south central Missouri, stat, ety settled and very poor in many ways that are always referred to as Wolf Scale Counties. Before the war the settlers had the wolves in healty good centrel, but during the six years of infining all the men in the southern counties were in one army or the other, and during these years the wolves multipled to such aumbers that the sheep-raising industry of that section never has been restored. In the five years of 1870 to 1875 \$1.50.000 were raid out by the State for wolf scales. One would think that nature had embarked in the business of Jaking wolves as a means of a livel cod. This is not however, true, for it will that more than another million and a half to extern nate the wolves from south Missouri. From the St. Louis Star Sugings.

From the lac offer that Expect.
Since a salmon trout happed from Conesus Since a salmon trout leaped from Conesus Lake and seized by the nose a boy who was riding in a local, some years are, no tetter fish story has been tool in this vicinity than actually took there are not learned from the formals of the first seen as highton the rier above flack treek. John Harris, his son, and School Commissioner Morely were econoged win in a cause which a black base learned from the water and struck the forms come over the water and struck the forms a dump on his forestead. The first time led into the beat, was captured, fried, and converted of an extravated assault. This morning he was fried and caten.

Chickens Abducted by a live.

Chickens Abducted by a live.

Mr. Brigham, the dyer of Orlando, has a beautiful and distilligent little day to whom he is very much a turned. He said has a ten. Not ong any that hen hatched some chickens by some incomprehensible enter the chickens by some incomprehensible enter the chickens of the chickens and showens the that a the profiler of the chickens of the chickens and showens the that is the profiler of the chickens and showens the chickens and the chickens and the chickens of the chickens and the chickens and the chickens and the chickens and the chickens are chickens and the chickens are chickens and the chickens are chickens as the chickens are chickens are chickens as the chickens are chickens are chickens as the chic